

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 091034
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00
SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-05 IO-13 /057 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AGLASPIE:RL
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-----063295 081844Z /14-S
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PEPR, US, IS

SUBJECT:PRESS GUIDANCE FOR WREN ARTICLE

REF: CAIRO 15302

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED, BUT NOT USED, ON
APRIL 7 IN RESPONSE TO EXPECTED QUESTIONS ON WREN ARTICLE:
BEGIN TEXT -- Q. IS IT TRUE THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IN THEIR
CAMP DAVID TALKS PROMISED PRESIDENT SADAT THAT THE UNITED
STATES WOULD PUT FORWARD A PEACE PLAN FOR THE MIDDLE EAST
AS SOON AS THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY IS RATIFIED?

A. FOR SOME TIME WE HAVE SAID THAT AS PART OF OUR ROLE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS, WE WILL BE PRESENTING IDEAS
AND SUGGESTIONS OF OUR OWN AT A TIME WE JUDGE IT USEFUL IN
MOVING THE PROCESS FORWARD.

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PAGE 02 STATE 091034

-- AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE IN CONSULTATIONS WITH EGYPT AND
ISRAEL ABOUT WHERE TO PROCEED NEXT IN THAT PROCESS, AND
BOTH THE TIMING AND SUBSTANCE OF WHAT WE DO WILL BE IN
CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THEM.

-- AS TO THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER'S
MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, WE DO NOT DISCUSS PUBLICLY

THE SUBSTANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL CONVERSATIONS.

IF PRESSED ON WHETHER "IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS" WILL NOT
AMOUNT TO A PLAN:

-- I SEE NO SENSE IN GETTING INTO A SEMANTIC ARGUMENT.
WE HAVE SAID REPEATEDLY THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN AN IM-
POSED SETTLEMENT. PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST MUST BE NEG-
OTIATED BY THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT THEMSELVES.

-- WHATEVER WE DO IS PART OF OUR EFFORTS TO HELP THEM
REACH THAT AGREEMENT.

-- I ALSO WANT TO MAKE CLEAR, AS DID MR. ATHERTON IN
ATLANTA, THAT WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN
NOT TO LOSE THIS IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE FORWARD IN
THE PEACE PROCESS.

IF ASKED WHY THIS IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY:

-- MR. ATHERTON'S SPEECH OUTLINED THAT IN SOME DETAIL. I
REFER YOU TO IT. END TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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